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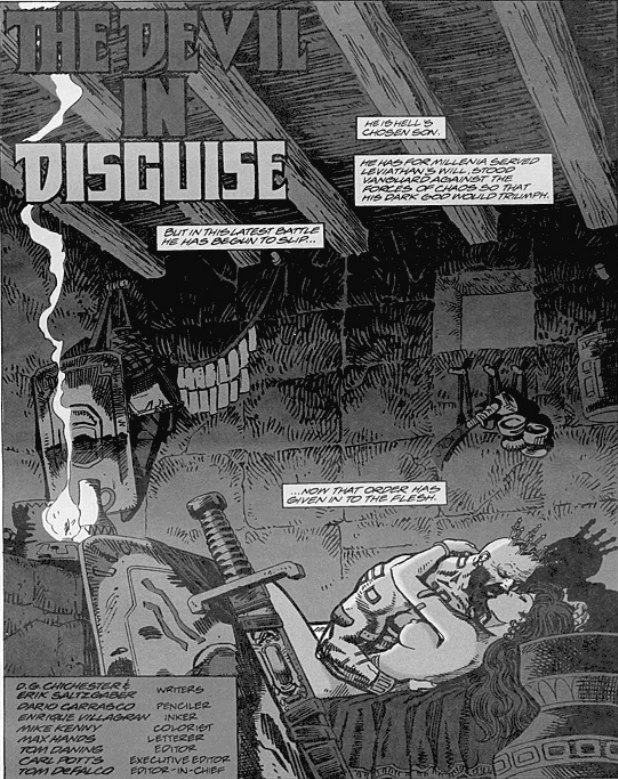
CLIVE BARKER'S PINHEAD



CLIVE BARRIS

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THE DEVIL IN DISGUISE



HE IS HELL'S
CHOSEN SON.

HE HAS FOR MILLENNIA SERVED
LEVIATHAN'S WILL, STOOD
VANGUARD AGAINST THE
FORCES OF CHAOS SO THAT
HIS DARK GOD WOULD TRIUMPH.

BUT IN THIS LATEST BATTLE
HE HAS BEGUN TO SLIP...

...NOW THAT ORDER HAS
GIVEN IN TO THE FLESH.

D.G. CHICHESTER &
ERIK SALTZGABER
DARIO CARRASCO
ENRIQUE VILLAGRAN
MIKE KENNY
MAX HANDS
TOM DANING
CARL POTT'S
TOM DEFALCO

WRITERS
PENCILER
INKER
COLORIST
LETTERER
EDITOR
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF







AS EVER, BEL ALA, YOUR STRENGTH
HAS SATIATED ME AS NO OTHER
COULD.

YOU HOLD
SUCH POWER...

"POWER THAT COUPLED WITH
MY STATUS AS PRIESTESS IN
THE CULT OF ISHTAR COULD
MAKE US A POTENT FORCE
HERE IN UR."



WE COULD RULE ALL OF SUMER, MY
LOVE. OUR LEGEND WOULD ECLIPSE
EVEN THAT OF GILGAMESH.

¿SIGH¿ WHAT
DO YOU WANT,
INANNA ?



FOR NOW,
JUST TO BE
WITH YOU.

AND TO HEAR
THE STORY ONCE
MORE, THE STORY
OF THE SERPENT
AND THE EAGLE.

THE TALE, I MUST
PULL IT FROM OUR...
FROM *MY* MEMORY.

"IN ANCIENT TIMES THE SERPENT AND
THE EAGLE ONE DAY AGREED TO HUNT
TOGETHER."

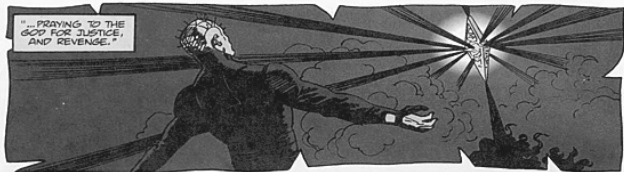
"OLD ENEMIES,
THEY'LL
TRUSTED ONE
ANOTHER."

"AND AS SURE AS NIGHT
FOLLOWS DAY THE EAGLE
BETRAYED THE SERPENT,
FLYING OFF TO
THE SERPENT'S NEST
WHILE THE SERPENT
HUNTED..."

"AND DEVoured THE SERPENT'S
CHILDREN, WHOM HE LOVED SO
DEARLY."

"THE SERPENT WENT BEFORE
THE GOD SHAMASH..."

"...PRAYING TO THE
GOD FOR JUSTICE,
AND REVENGE."



THAT IS AS
MUCH OF THE STORY
AS I KNOW.



BUT SURELY IT MUST END. MAKE
UP AN ENDING FOR ME, BEL ALA,
THE ENDING YOU WOULD LIKE
TO SEE.

VERY
WELL...



"THE SERPENT, CUNNING AND
PERSISTENT, HID ITSELF INSIDE
THE CORPSE OF A BULL, AND
WAITED PATIENTLY FOR THE
CARRION-EATING EAGLE TO
ARRIVE, ATTACKING HIM WHEN
THE BASTARD FOWL FINALLY
LANDED."



"THE SERPENT'S TEETH AND COILS TORE AND
CRUSHED THE EAGLE FOR ITS BLEAK TREACHERY,
LEAVING IT TO DIE A COWARD'S DEATH IN THE
BAKING SUN AND SAND."



THE WHORE
PRIESTESS'S
LAIR.

BEL ALA SEEMED
CONFUSED, ALMOST
WEAK, TODAY.



YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE
A DIFFERENT ENDING,
WOULDN'T YOU
MISTRESS?

I'D LIKE TO SEE
AN ENDING OF
STRENGTH...





"PERHAPS THERE COULD BE ANOTHER ENDING, MISTRESS INANNA. AN ENDING WHERE A WISE PRIESTESS HEALED THE EAGLE."



"AND A GRATEFUL EAGLE ALLOWED THE PRIESTESS TO CLIMB ONTO HIS BACK TAKING HER HIGHER THAN SHE EVER DREAMED."



BUT PERHAPS THE "EAGLE" ISN'T A BIRD AT ALL, BUT INSTEAD A CREATURE THAT CHANGES ITS FEATURES THAT RAILS AGAINST THE FIRES OF SHEOL. THAT CREATURE COULD BE THE LEGENDARY MARDUK, WITH FOUR EYES, FOUR EARS, AND A MOUTH OF FLAME.



IT IS TOLD THAT THE MARDUK HAS POWER OVER LIFE AND DEATH...



IN THAT ENDING, THOUGH, THE SERPENT IS BETRAYED AGAIN, AND THE SERPENT IS PERHAPS MORE POWERFUL THAN THE "EAGLE."



AND WOULD BE MORE POWERFUL THAN ANY SERPENT COULD EVER BE.







GYAARK!

I'VE
COME THROUGH
TIME TO FIND
YOU, MASTER--



--TO FIND YOU LOST IN
THE ARMS OF A WHORE--

-- NOT DOING A
DAVIN THING IN HELL'S
DEFENSE AGAINST
AGGREGATE!



YOU SPEAK
WITH IMPUNITY,
GEHENNA...

... SUCH IS
NOT A CENOBIITE'S
PLACE!



YOU SPEAK WITH
IMPUNITY-- SEDUCED
BY THE PRIMAL FEELINGS
OF YOUR EARLIER
INCARNATION!



IT HURDS AGAINST
YOU, MASTER--
AGAINST US!

YOU MUST BE
STRONG! WE'RE ALL
NOT UNHOLY SPIRITS,
TIMELESSLY COMMITTED
TO THE PROMISE OF
LEVATHAN!

SOME OF
US HAVE MADE
SACRIFICES TO
GAIN REDEMPTION.



"THE FIT OF MOLECH
DEMANDED OFFERINGS,
AND THE PRIEST'S
GUARDS BROUGHT THEM
DAILY!"



IT WILL BE...
ALL RIGHT...
LITTLE ONE!



"THE HERBS OF
SLEEP WERE
FORBIDDEN, BUT
I TOOK THE RISK."



"TO SPARE
THE CHILD."

"TO SPARE
THEM ALL."



"THEN THE
AWFUL
DRY GATE."



"I KNEW BETTER
BY THEN TO LOOK
THEM IN THEIR SMALL,
SCARED EYES."



FATHER?



NOOO!



"THEY DIDN'T
WAIT."

"MY SON WENT INTO THE
FIRE, STILL SCREAMING
FOR ME. STILL AWAKE
TO FEEL AND FEED THE
EVER BURNING FLAMES."



"I SAW IT AT
THAT MOMENT,
LIKE A DOOR
OPENING TO
ANOTHER
WORLD."



"THE PATTERN OF BONE
I'D BEEN BUILDING ALL
THOSE YEARS."



"IT PROMISED SOMETHING
MORE, TO MAKE UP FOR
WHAT I'D LOST."

THERE IS A TRANSCENDENCE--
IN HELL, MORE THAN SIMPLE
PAIN OR DAMNATION.

IT IS EXPERIENCE
BEYOND THE ARM,
MASTER, AND IT HAS
HELPED ME FORGET
MY TRUE SUFFERING--

-- THE REAL AGONY
OF NEVER AGAIN
SEEING MY BOY!

SHOULD
AGGREGATE
SUCCEED IN HIS
VENDETTA-- SHOULD
HELL FALL--

-- WHAT WILL ANY OF
US HAVE BUT RELIVING
THAT TERRIBLE DAY AT
EACH OF OUR PYRES?

PLEASE SPARE
US THAT FATE, MASTER...
SPARE US...



I'VE NEVER SEEN
ONE LIKE THIS BEFORE,
PRIESTESS!



IT COMES
FROM A... FRIEND...
OF OUR PEOPLE...



... CAN YOU WORK WITH
IT, SMITH? MAKE A STRONGER
METAL THAN THE BRONZE?

DON'T RUSH
ME, WOMAN! YOUR
FATHERS ONLY GIVE
YOU SO MUCH
SWAY!

I HAVE
MY OWN GUES
TO TEST FIRST!



YOU'LL
DO AS YOUR
TOLD! PUT THE
ROCK TO
FIRE!

IS THIS
YOUR
"FRIEND"?



DOES THE WHORE
NOW TAKE THE ADVICE
OF A SLAVE?



WE'RE
ONLY A SLAVE
IN TIME,
SMITH--



--AND WE WON'T
HAVE YOU WASTING
THAT!

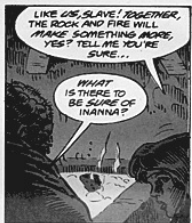
AH EERRG



GRAVE
AWAY! THERE'S
NO NEED OF
YOU NOW--



--THE ORE
HAS FOUND ITS
MATE!



LIKE US, SLAVE! TOGETHER,
THE ROCK AND FIRE WILL
MAKE SOMETHING MORE,
YES? TELL ME YOU'RE
SURE...

WHAT
IS THERE TO
BE SURE OF
INANNA?



CERTAINLY
NOT YOUR
LOYALTY.



AGGREGATE IS
ONLY SURE OF THE DESPER-
ATION THAT FUELS HIM TO
SEARCH FOR THE KEY TO A
PUZZLE-- ANY PUZZLE--







FORGIVE
ME, THEN, IF I
DIG DEEPER
FOR THE
TRUTH!

THERE IS MORE TO US,
PINHEAD -- MORE THAN
YOU'LL EVER KNOW!



"OUR" SELF-SERVING
INANNA WAS TAKEN
WITH THE STORY OF
THE EAGLE AND
ETANA.



DO YOU KNOW
HOW IT ENDS?



"THE EAGLE
HAD ALWAYS
PLANNED TO
BETRAY
ETANA, TAKING
HER SO HIGH
SHE WOULD
LOSE HER
BREATH



"I AM SURE
YOU CAN
RELATE,
AGGRE-
GATE.



"BUT SHE GRABBED
AT HIM AS SHE FELL...



"...DRAGGING THEM
BOTH DOWN."



IN THE LONG NIGHT
OF PRE-HISTORY,



STRUCTURES RISE
FROM OUT OF THE MUD,
HESITANT AND TREMULOUS.



DISORDER
REACHES IN
TO DISRUPT
THE PRETTY
PATTERN.



BUT ORDER--

-- TERRIBLE, WONDERFUL ORDER --

-- PREVAILS TO
CONTINUE ITS
HELLISH WORK.



NEXT: PINHEAD'S BATTLE WITH AGGREGATE CONCLUDES!
"GIVE THE DEVIL HIS DUE!"



PINUP GALLERY

SHAWN MARTINE ROUGH

MIRAN KIM

DAVID DAY

MARK PACCELLA

MARK NELSON

